

No. 6336	號六十三百三千六第	日九十月二年寅戊緒光	HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND, 1878.	五拜禮	號三十三百三千六第	港香	PRICE \$24 per Month
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PRICE \$2½ PER MONTH

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Ports, Consignees  
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after the 24th  
signed by  
HESON & Co.  
14475  
SSA GERIES  
S.  
AGENTS.

POUEY,  
Agent.  
Messrs. Tait & Co.,  
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## NOTICE

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B. CHATTERTON WILCOX.  
Daily Press Office,  
Hongkong, 1st January, 1878.

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The foreign residents in this Colony are always busy, have little leisure to devote to matters outside their own immediate business, and however important the public questions that from time to time arise may be, they find it difficult to tear themselves from their offices to take them up. But it must not be supposed that the merchants of Hongkong are indifferent to the currency question. It is a question in which they take a lively interest, as well they may, considering the fact that it affects them all more or less, and that it is a question which, if not properly settled, will be a constant source of trouble and inconvenience to the community.

Mr. GRANVILLE SMITH, in his letter of Wednesday last, might be taken to imply that greater finish and a more intricate design would protect a coin from mutilation, but we feel sure he did not intend to convey such a meaning. No design, however elaborate, elegant, and intricate, would insure immunity from chipping in Kwangtung.

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It is unfortunately too true, as our correspondent "Observer" remarks, that the currency question is likely to be a long and tedious one for a period. This is not, however, so much due, we imagine, to apathy on the part of the mercantile community here as to want of time on their part to devote to its discussion.

The foreign residents in this Colony are always busy, have little leisure to devote to matters outside their own immediate business, and however important the public questions that from time to time arise may be, they find it difficult to tear themselves from their offices to take them up. But it must not be supposed that the merchants of Hongkong are indifferent to the currency question. It is a question in which they take a lively interest, as well they may, considering the fact that it affects them all more or less, and that it is a question which, if not properly settled, will be a constant source of trouble and inconvenience to the community.

Mr. GRANVILLE SMITH, in his letter of Wednesday last, might be taken to imply that greater finish and a more intricate design would protect a coin from mutilation, but we feel sure he did not intend to convey such a meaning. No design, however elaborate, elegant, and intricate, would insure immunity from chipping in Kwangtung.

It might to a certain extent protect it from mutilation in this Colony, but only partially. The Japanese yen is exceedingly well minted, and could not readily be imitated, but this circumstance does not save it from being defaced, nor does that elegant coin, the American trade dollar, escape chipping. The only plan would be for the British Government, if it decided to permit the re-establishment of the Mint in Hongkong, to ask the Chinese Government to forbid the chipping of the new currency in Kwangtung and other parts of the Empire where the custom prevails. If Canton merchants were afraid of the new dollars being counterfeited they might put their stamp upon them in ink as is done in Shanghai. This practice while not improving the appearance of the coins, it does not permanently deface them or depreciate their value like chipping them on the granitic. But unless the co-operation of the Chinese Authorities could be obtained, the Cantonese would soon set to work to deface the new coins.

We hope that the Home Government will see fit to allow the Mint to be revived here. It can readily be demonstrated—indeed this has already been done by Major KINCH and others—that in closing the Hongkong Mint Sir RICHARD MACDONALD made a great mistake. It would, however, as "Observer" remarks, take time to impress this upon the Imperial Government, and it is not improbable that it will be disinclined to sanction the revival of the Mint, for fear it should not turn out the success anticipated. In any event, there would be the usual delay caused by the red tape of the Colonial Office. Perhaps the best plan would be to try and obtain permission for the revival of the Mint here under private auspices, subject, of course, to Government inspection. Capital would not be wanting, we believe, for the purpose, and if it could be obtained at a moderate cost, and permission obtained for its erection, the Mint would soon, we believe, become an accomplished fact. The profits, though not enormous, would be highly remunerative. Of this there cannot be a doubt. The subsidiary coins, would, as Mr. SHARP has shown, suffice to ensure the Mint paying well. It would also certainly be more satisfactory than a British dollar should be the standard in China than that we should continue to be dependent upon other countries for a currency. If the authorities in Downing Street obstinately refuse to allow any fresh experiment to be made with a Mint in Hongkong, then it will at least be advisable to see if some arrangement cannot be arrived at with the Chinese Government to put a stop to the abominable practice of chipping the coins. But we trust that the Hongkong community will not relinquish the idea of the revival of the Mint here without making strenuous efforts to secure it. It is eminently desirable, both in the interests of commerce and for the maintenance of British prestige in the Far East, that a British coin should be the standard for Hongkong, China, and the Straits.

## NOTICE

We have had a public debate with a view to settling a question of law, and have decided in favour of the "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS" and the "HONGKONG CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY."

B. CHATTERTON WILCOX.  
Daily Press Office,  
Hongkong, 1st January, 1878.

## NOTICE

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.  
Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their communications to the Editor, and not to the Manager, as the latter is not responsible for the publication of any article.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

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White, per pound 100.00  
Green, per pound 100.00

[illegible]

per sack of 50 lbs.....	\$1.40
per barrel of 100 lbs.....	\$3.50

[illegible]

Feb. 27	Hupper
Nov. 26	Blanchard

493	Little & Co.	
502	Bussell & Co.	
617	Captain	
1190	S. O. Fernham & Co.	
279	Nils Moller	
338	Blain & Co.	
450	C. M. S. N. Co.	
790	Adamson, Bell & Co.	
232	Morris & Co.	
840	Franze & Co.	
578	Prinnee & Co.	
289	Captain	
498	Adamson, Bell Co.	
648	J. M. Walker.	
	Little & Co.	
242	Nils Moller	
338	Captain	
254	Morris & Co.	
611	Blain & Co.	
879	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	
<b>CHEFOO.</b>		
<b>PORT ON 20TH FEBRUARY, 1878.</b>		
407	Cornwall & Co.	Swatow
320	Cornwall & Co.	
653	Ferguson & Co.	
893	Cornwall & Co.	
<b>YOKOHAMA.</b>		
<b>PORT ON 18TH MARCH, 1878.</b>		
207	Cornwall	
227	Messageries Maritimes	
540	L. Kieffler & Co.	
1045	Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	
448	Chinese	
520	L. Kieffler & Co.	
972	China & Japan, Trading Co.	
457	L. Knafitz & Co.	
1050	Isaacs, Brothers & Co.	
299	Wald, Hall & Co.	
54	Cook	
1469	Wald, Hall & Co.	
<b>MANILA.</b>		
<b>PORT ON 9TH MARCH, 1878.</b>		
420	Captain	London
1356	Captain	
803		Fulmont
840	Order	
294		Hongkong
233	Order	
371	Order	

Dec. 25	
Jan. 21	Madden

[illegible]